

23. (Three Times Amended) A method for improving the absorption of calcium

in a mammal comprising the steps of enterally administering to the mammal requiring increased calcium absorption a nutritional composition comprising one or more *Lactobacillus* bacteria capable of arriving in a living state in intestines of the mammal.

26. (Amended) The method of Claim 23 wherein the nutritional composition is a

liquid and comprises about 10^7 to about 10^{11} cfu/ml of the *Lactobacillus* bacteria.